

9 AF/1631
\$

ARNOLD & PORTER

202.942.5000
202.942.5999 Fax

555 Twelfth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004-1206

O I P E S C
SEP 29 2003
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

September 29, 2003

RECEIVED
OCT 03 2003
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/553,094
Filed: April 18, 2000
Inventors: Scott E. ANDERSEN *et al.*
Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other
Molecules Associated with Plants
Atty. Docket: 16517.001/38-21(15503)B

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

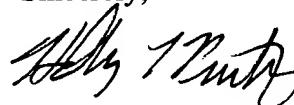
1. Request for Oral Hearing Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences; and
2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

Please charge the statutory fee of \$280.00 for Appellants' Request for Oral Hearing to counsel's deposit account 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.001/15503B. A duplicate copy of this page is attached.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.001/15503B. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Sincerely,



David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)
Holly Logue Prutz (Reg. No. 47,755)

Enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re application of:

Scott E. ANDERSEN et al.

Appln. No.: 09/553,094

Filed: April 18, 2000

Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other
Molecules Associated with Plants

Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: Marjorie A. MORAN

Atty. Docket No.: 38-21(15503)B

Confirmation No.: 4263

Request for Oral Hearing
Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Appellants hereby request an oral hearing before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in the appeal of the above-identified application.

Authorization to charge the official fee for this filing is given in the accompanying transmittal letter.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence M. Lavin Jr.

Lawrence M. Lavin, Jr. (Reg. No. 30,768)
by David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)
Holly Logue Prutz (Reg. No. 47,755)

by Holly Logue Prutz

Date: September 29, 2003

MONSANTO COMPANY
800 N. Lindbergh Boulevard
Mailzone E2NA
St. Louis, Missouri 63167
Tel: 314-694-3602
Fax: 314-694-9009

09/29/2003 55555555555555555555555555555555
00000125 502387 09553094
01/14/03 200.00 JA